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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

112349

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT Max Seydewitz, Minister-President of Saxony

INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. 12 September 1947

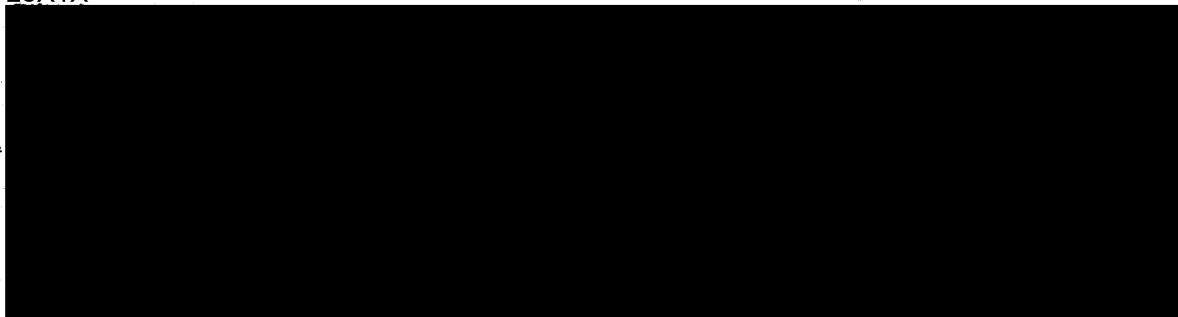
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1. Max Seydewitz was elected Minister-President of Saxony as the express desire of the Political Division in Karlshorst; his name was not among those listed as possible candidates for the office by the Saxon state government. Dr. Zeigler, the Oberbürgermeister of Leipzig, who was supported by Minister of the Interior Kurt Fischer, and Otto Buchwitz, chairman of the SED in Saxony, who had the backing of SED circles, were rejected in favor of Seydewitz.
2. Before Hitler's seizure of power in 1933, Seydewitz was Managing Editor of the SPD newspaper, Sächsisches Volksblatt, in Zwickau. Because of his strong Communist leanings, he was regarded with distrust by his colleagues and in SPD circles was generally deemed to be unreliable politically. Immediately after the seizure of power he disappeared and therefore failed to be nominated by the SPD for the last Reichstag. He was not among those numerous SPD leaders and deputies arrested after the burning of the Reichstag building.
3. Beginning in 1936 Seydewitz spent some time in Moscow, where he received training in a school for Communist functionaries. The German press is not permitted to mention this visit to Russia. An extremist himself, Seydewitz is expected to continue the radical policy introduced in Saxony by Minister Fischer.

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